Protection of Gorkha fort in Uttaranchal

†4071. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are having some plan to declare the Gorkha Fort situated atop Sri Naithana Devi Hill under district Almora in Uttaranchal as a protected monument;

(b) if so, by when it will be declared as a protected monument; and

(c) whether Gorkha Fort being declared as a protected monument, Government have any plan to develop Sri Naithana Devi hill as ideal tourist destination?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal with the Central Government to declare Gorkha Fort at Naithana Devi Hill as a protected monument of national importance.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

Development of Eco-Tourism in Orissa

4072. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that eco-tourism is picking up in Orissa and other States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of the Centre to help the cash-strapped Orissa State to develop this sector to improve their economy?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) There is a great potential of promoting eco-tourism in the country including the State of Orissa. National Tourism Policy lays emphasis on promotion of eco-tourism, Department of Tourism has been providing Central Financial Assistance for development of tourism infrastructure including eco-tourism project in States and Union Territories including Orissa based on project proposals prioritized in consultation

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Some of the State Governments like Sikkim, Kerala, Tamil' Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have implemented unique eco-tourism projects in their States with Central Financial Assistance from Department of Tourism. Department of Tourism has also formulated Eco-Tourism Policy and Guidelines. These Guidelines aim to preserve, retain and enrich natural resources to ensure regulated growth of Tourism and for achieving sustainable tourism development in the country.

(c) The Department of Tourism has prioritized development of the following schemes in consultation with the State Government of Orissa for granting Central financial Assistance during the current financial year:—

Destination:	1. Chilka
Tourism Circuit:	1. Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konark-
	2. Simlipal-Chandipur-Talsari-Panchalingeswar
	3. Araku Valley-Sunabeda-Koraput-Malkangiri
Event/Festival:	1. Sreekshetra Vasant Utsav
	2. Ekamra Utsav
	3. Puri Beach Festival
	4. Konark Festival
Rural Tourism Projects:	1. Daringibadi Village, Phulbani Distt.
	2. Kheliyajali Village

Involvement of yoga for promotion of tourism

4073. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) in what manner Government are involving the renowned yoga teachers and centres in different countries towards promotion of Tourism;

(b) whether Government have **a** list of such big organisations which hold yoga camps and festivals abroad;